

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following is a copy of Applicant's claims that identifies language being added with underlining ("____") and language being deleted with strikethrough ("_____") or double brackets ("[[[]]]"), as is applicable:

1. (Currently amended) A method implemented by a digital home communication terminal (DHCT) for providing television functionality, the method comprising:
 - tracking by the DHCT a plurality of viewing parameters corresponding to services that are provided to a user;
 - determining a user preference for each of the plurality of viewing parameters;
 - tracking the user preference by assigning a score to each of the plurality of viewing parameters;
 - weighting the scores;
 - determining an overall user preference score for the plurality of tracked viewing parameters based on a linear combination of the weighted scores associated with each of the plurality of tracked viewing parameters for the user;
 - receiving user input requesting television functionality subsequent to determining the overall user preference score, where the television functionality comprises tuning to a user identified television service, where the user identified television service corresponds to at least one of the plurality of viewing parameters; and
 - providing the user with a result that is responsive to the user input and to the overall user preference score, where the result comprises not tuning to the user identified television service.
2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, where the user preference is determined based on a duration that a service characterized by one or more of the plurality of viewing parameters is presented to the user.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, where the user preference is determined based on a frequency that a service characterized by one or more of the plurality of viewing parameters is presented to the user.
4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, where the user preference is determined based on a duration and a frequency that a service characterized by one or more of the plurality of viewing parameters is presented to the user.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, where the user preference is for a service.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, where the user preference conflicts with another user preference.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, where the user preference is defined by the user.
8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, where the user preference is determined by tracking services that are provided by the DHCT a digital home communication terminal.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, where the result is only provided if a preference-adaptive mode is activated.
10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 9, where the preference adaptive mode is activated via a switch located on a remote control device, the switch physically separate from a switch corresponding to any of the following functionality: tuning to a video channel, selecting a program corresponding to a title of the program displayed on a television screen, or powering on and off the DHCT or a television.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1, where user preference is determined based on user input.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, where the user input indicates a preference for a viewing parameter.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, where the user input indicates a preference against one or more of the plurality of viewing parameters.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, where the user input indicates a preference for a first viewing parameter and a preference against a second viewing parameter, said first and second viewing parameters comprise the plurality of viewing parameters.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, where a preference tracking database is used to keep track of the user preference.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, where the preference tracking database keeps track of user preferences for the plurality of types of viewing parameters.

17-19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, where the overall user preference score for the plurality of tracked viewing parameters changes over time.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, where the overall user preference score for the plurality of tracked viewing parameters is revised using statistical analysis.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, where the overall user preference score for the plurality of tracked viewing parameters is determined using an artificial intelligence technology.

23. (Original) The method of claim 1, where data identifying the user preference is stored in non-volatile memory.

24. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, where data identifying the user preference is stored within the DHCT a digital home communication terminal.

25-26. (Canceled)

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, where one of the plurality of viewing parameters is a television service.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, where one of the plurality of viewing parameters is a type of television service.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, where one of the plurality of viewing parameters is a television instance.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 29, where the television instance is a television program.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, where one of the plurality of viewing parameters is a type of television instance.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, where a look-up table is used to determine the user preference for at least one of the plurality of viewing parameters.

33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, where a look-up table is used to determine a user preference for the plurality of viewing parameters.

34. (Original) The method of claim 33, where a number of viewing parameters represented in a first look-up table entry is independent from a number of viewing parameters represented in a second look-up table entry.

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, where a plurality of look-up tables are used to determine a user preference for the plurality of viewing parameters.

36-46. (Canceled)

47. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[46]] 1, where the result further comprises prompting a user to provide additional input.

48. (Original) The method of claim 47, where the additional input comprises a personal identification number (PIN).

49. (Currently amended) A system for providing television functionality comprising:

a memory encoded with software; and

a processor configured to execute the software to cause the processor to:

~~logic for tracking track~~ a plurality of viewing parameters corresponding to services that are provided to a user;

~~logic for determining determine~~ a user preference for each of the plurality of viewing parameters, where the user preference corresponds to at least one of the plurality of viewing parameters;

~~logic for tracking track~~ the user preference by assigning a score to each of the plurality of viewing parameters;

~~logic for weighting weight~~ the scores;

~~logic for determining determine~~ an overall user preference score for the plurality of tracked viewing parameters based on a linear combination of the weighted scores associated with each of the plurality of tracked viewing parameters for the user;

~~logic for receiving receive~~ user input requesting television functionality subsequent to the determination of the overall user preference score, where the television functionality comprises presenting for display an interactive program guide (IPG); and

~~logic for providing provide~~ the user with a result that is responsive to the user input and to the overall user preference score, where the result comprises presenting an initial IPG screen that lists at least one television service that corresponds to at least one of the plurality of viewing parameters, where the initial IPG screen omits television services that do not correspond at least one of the plurality of viewing parameters, where the initial IPG screen comprises plural rows of television services and plural columns of equal-lengthed intervals, wherein each respective start of the equal-lengthed intervals corresponds to a scheduled broadcast time for plural television programs.

50. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 49, where the user preference is determined based on a duration that a service characterized by one or more of the plurality of viewing parameters is presented to the user.

51. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 49, where the user preference is determined based on a frequency that a service characterized by one or more of the plurality of viewing parameters is presented to the user.

52. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 49, where the user preference is determined based on a duration and a frequency that a service characterized by one or more of the plurality of viewing parameters is presented to the user.

53. (Original) The system of claim 49, where the user preference varies over time.

54. (Original) The system of claim 49, where the user preference is for a service.

55. (Original) The system of claim 49, where the user preference conflicts with another user preference.

56. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 49, where the user preference is defined by the user.

57. (Original) The system of claim 49, where the user preference is determined based on tracking services that are provided by a digital home communication terminal.

58. (Original) The system of claim 49, where the result is only provided if a preference-adaptive mode is activated.

59. (Currently amended) The system of claim 58, further comprising a remote control device, where the preference adaptive mode is activated via a switch located on [[a]] the remote control device, the switch physically separate from a switch corresponding to any of the following functionality: tuning to a video channel, selecting a program corresponding to a title of the program displayed on a television screen, or powering on and off a television or a digital home communication terminal housing the processor and the memory.

60. (Original) The system of claim 49, where user preference is determined based on user input.

61. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 60, where the user input indicates a preference for one or more of the plurality of viewing parameters.

62. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 60, where the user input indicates a preference against one or more of the plurality of viewing parameters.

63. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 60, where the user input indicates a preference for a first viewing parameter and a preference against a second viewing parameter, said first and second viewing parameters comprise the plurality of viewing parameters.

64. (Original) The system of claim 49, where a preference tracking database is used to keep track of the user preference.

65. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 64, where the preference tracking database keeps track of user preferences for the plurality of types of viewing parameters.

66-68. (Canceled)

69. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 49, where the overall user preference score for the plurality of tracked viewing parameters changes over time.

70. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 49, where the overall user preference score for the plurality of tracked viewing parameters is revised using statistical analysis.

71. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 49, where the overall user preference score for the plurality of tracked viewing parameters is determined using an artificial intelligence technology.

72. (Original) The system of claim 49, where data identifying the user preference is stored in non-volatile memory.

73. (Original) The system of claim 49, where data identifying the user preference is stored within a digital home communication terminal.

74. (Original) The system of claim 49, where data identifying the user preference is stored within a headend device.

75. (Canceled)

76. (Currently amended) The system of claim [[75]] 49, where at least one of the plurality of viewing parameters is a television service.

77. (Currently amended) The system of claim [[75]] 49, where at least one of the plurality of viewing parameters is a type of television service.

78. (Currently amended) The system of claim [[75]] 49, where at least one of the plurality of viewing parameters is a television instance.

79. (Previously presented) The system of claim 78, where the television instance is a television program.

80. (Currently amended) The system of claim [[75]] 49, where at least one of the plurality of viewing parameters is a type of television instance.

81. (Currently amended) The system of claim [[75]] 49, where a look-up table is used to determine the user preference for at least one of the plurality of viewing parameters.

82. (Currently amended) The system of claim [[75]] 49, where a look-up table is used to determine a user preference for the plurality of viewing parameters.

83. (Original) The system of claim 82, where a number of viewing parameters represented in a first look-up table entry is independent from a number of viewing parameters represented in a second look-up table entry.

84. (Currently amended) The system of claim [[75]] 49, where a plurality of look-up tables are used to determine a user preference for the plurality of viewing parameters.

85-111. (Canceled)

112. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising initially estimating weights for weighting the scores using artificial intelligence technology.

113. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising refining weights for weighting the scores using artificial intelligence technology.

114. (Currently amended) The system of claim 49, wherein the processor is further configured to execute the software to cause the processor to further comprising logic for initially estimating estimate weights for weighting the scores using artificial intelligence technology.

115. (Currently amended) The system of claim 49, wherein the processor is further configured to execute the software to cause the processor to further comprising logic for refining refine weights for weighting the scores using artificial intelligence technology.

116. (Previously Presented) A method for providing television functionality comprising:
tracking a plurality of viewing parameters corresponding to services that are provided to a user, at least a first portion of the viewing parameters overlapping in content a second portion of the viewing parameters, the viewing parameters comprising a television service, a type of television service, a television instance, and a type of television instance;
determining a user preference for each of the plurality of viewing parameters;
tracking the user preference by assigning a score to each of the plurality of viewing parameters, the score based on the preference of the user;
weighting exclusively the scores;
determining an overall user preference score for the plurality of tracked viewing parameters based on a linear combination of the weighted scores associated with each of the plurality of tracked viewing parameters for the user;
receiving user input requesting television functionality; and
providing the user with a result that is responsive to the user input and to the overall user preference score.